

ABSTRACT

5           A sealable food container includes a base serving member such as a plate  
having a generally planar central portion, a sidewall extending generally upwardly  
and outwardly therefrom and a base outer flange portion extending outwardly from  
the sidewall. The sidewall defines a sealing area with an undercut annular sealing  
10 surface disposed between the substantially planar central portion of the base serving  
member and the base outer flange portion. The sidewall portion of the plate defines a  
base stop ridge adjacent the upper edge of the undercut annular sealing surface of the  
sidewall as well as a laterally extending retaining shelf adjacent the lower edge of the  
undercut annular sealing surface of the base serving member. A matching sealing lid  
15 is typically provided with a dome, a flexible sidewall and an annular sealing portion  
configured to cooperate with the base stop ridge and the sealing surface of the serving  
member in order to seal the container. The laterally extending retaining shelf in the  
sidewall of the base serves to position the sidewall engaging cover during sealing of  
the container. In a preferred embodiment, the sidewall of the lid has upwardly  
projecting flutes and the base has an outer recess at the lower portion of its sidewall  
20 configured to engage the upwardly projecting flutes to render the containers securely  
stackable.